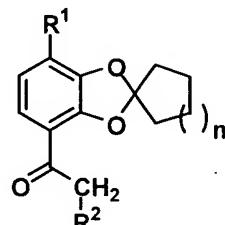


a). Amendments to the Claims

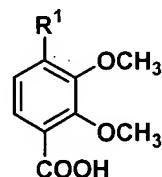
1. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative represented by formula (VII)



(VII)

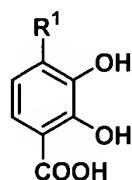
(wherein R¹ represents hydroxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy; R² represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; and n represents an integer of from 1 to 6), which ~~comprises~~ comprises:

treating a compound represented by formula (I)



(I)

(wherein R¹ has the same meaning as defined above) with hydrogen iodide to give a compound represented by formula (II)

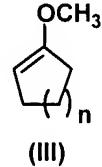


(II)

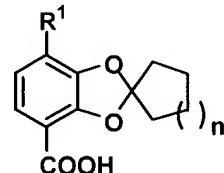
(wherein R^+ has the same meaning as defined above);

allowing the resulting compound represented by the above formula

(II) to react with a compound represented by formula (III)



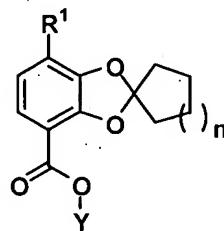
(wherein n has the same meaning as defined above) to give a compound represented by formula (IV)



(IV)

(wherein R^+ and n have the same meanings as defined above respectively);

converting the resulting compound represented by the above formula (IV) into a compound represented by formula (V)

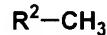


(V)

(wherein R^+ and n have the same meanings as defined above respectively; and Y represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, substituted or

unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group);

adding a base to a mixture containing the resulting compound represented by the above formula (V) and a compound represented by formula (VI)

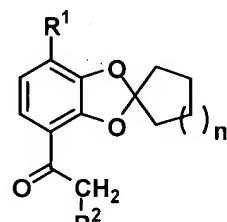


(VI)

(wherein R^2 has the same meaning as defined above);

and allowing the compound represented by the above formula (V) to react with the compound represented by the above formula (VI).

2. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative represented by formula (VII)

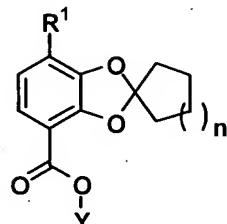


(VII)

(wherein R^1 , R^2 and n have the same meanings as defined above respectively) R^1

represents hydroxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy; R^2 represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; and n represents an integer of from 1 to 6, which comprises comprises:

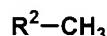
adding a base to a mixture containing a compound represented by formula (V)



(V)

(wherein R^1 , n and Y have the same meanings as defined above respectively Y represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group)

and a compound represented by formula (VI)



(VI)

(wherein R^2 has the same meaning as defined above);

and allowing the compound represented by the above formula (V) to react with the compound represented by the above formula (VI).

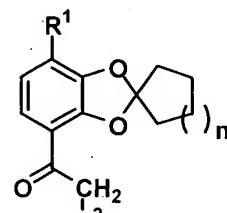
3. (Original) The process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the base is lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide.

4. (Original) The process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative according to Claim 3, wherein the reaction temperature when

the compound represented by formula (V) reacts with the compound represented by formula (VI) is between -10°C and 50°C.

5. (Currently Amended) The process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1 or 2, wherein Y is *n*-butyl.

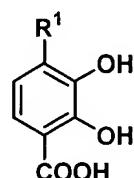
6. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative represented by formula (VII)



(VII)

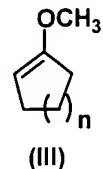
(wherein R¹, R² and n have the same meanings as defined above respectively R¹ represents hydroxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy; R² represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; and n represents an integer of from 1 to 6), which comprises comprises:

allowing a compound represented by formula (II)

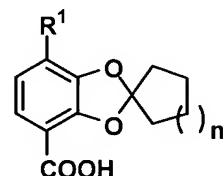


(II)

(wherein R^+ has the same meaning as defined above) to react with a compound represented by formula (III)

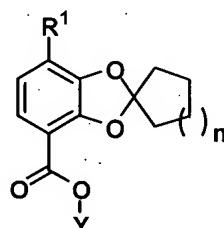


(wherein n represents an integer of from 1 to 6) to give a compound represented by formula (IV)



(IV)

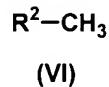
(wherein R^+ and n have the same meanings as defined above);
converting the resulting compound represented by the above formula (IV) into a compound represented by formula (V)



(V)

(wherein R^+ , n and Y have the same meanings as defined above respectively Y represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group);

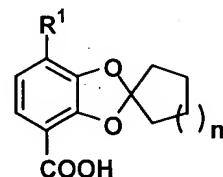
adding a base to a mixture containing the resulting compound represented by the above formula (V) and a compound represented by formula (VI)



(wherein R^2 has the same meaning as defined above);

and allowing the compound represented by the above formula (V) to react with the compound represented by the above formula (VI).

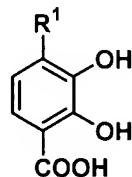
7. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound represented by formula (IV)



(IV)

(wherein R^1 and n have the same meanings as defined above respectively, R^1 represents hydroxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy; and n represents an integer of from 1 to 6), which comprises comprises:

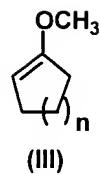
allowing a compound represented by formula (II)



(II)

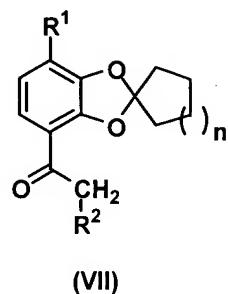
(wherein R^1 has the same meaning as defined above) to react with a

compound represented by formula (III)



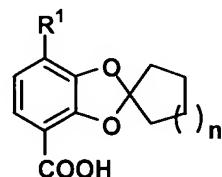
(wherein n has the same meaning as defined above).

8. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative represented by formula (VII)



(wherein R^1 , R^2 and n have the same meanings as defined above respectively represents hydroxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy; R^2 represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; and n represents an integer of from 1 to 6), which comprises comprises:

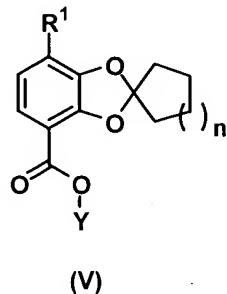
converting a compound represented by formula (IV)



(wherein R^1 and n have the same meanings as defined above)

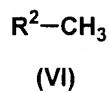
respectively)

into a compound represented by formula (V)



(wherein R^1 , n and Y have the same meanings as defined above respectively Y represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group);

adding a base to a mixture containing the resulting compound represented by the above formula (V) and a compound represented by formula (VI)

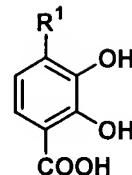


(wherein R^2 has the same meaning as defined above);

and allowing the compound represented by the above formula (V) to react with the compound represented by the above formula (VI).

9. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound represented by formula (II)

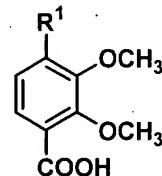
9. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound represented by formula (II)



(II)

(wherein R^1 has the same meaning as defined above represents hydroxy, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy), which comprises comprises:

treating a compound represented by formula (I)



(I)

(wherein R^1 has the same meaning as defined above) with hydrogen iodide.

10. (Currently Amended) The process for preparing according to any one of Claims 1 to 6 and 8 Claims 1, 2, 6 or 8, wherein R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group.

11. (Currently Amended) The process for preparing according to any one of ~~Claims 1 to 10~~ Claims 1, 2 and 6-9, wherein R^1 is methoxy.

12. (New) The process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative according to Claim 3, wherein Y is *n*-butyl.

13. (New) The process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative according to Claim 4, wherein Y is *n*-butyl.

14. (New) The process for preparing according to Claim 10, wherein R^1 is methoxy.